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upon the year, to 14.3 per thousand of the population. This rate, however, was considerably lower than that for the corresponding week of last year, in which it amounted to 17.5. In spite of this increase, only four of the large German towns, namely, Barmen, Crefeld, Schöneberg (13.3), and Charlottenburg (with 12.4 per thousand) showed more favorable figures than Berlin. The death rate of London was somewhat lower than that of Berlin. The death rate of the following towns, among others, was considerably higher than that of Berlin, viz: Dresden, Leipzig, Bremen, Hanover, Cologne, Frankfort-on-the-Main, Hamburg, Munich, Nuremberg, as well as Paris and Vienna. The increase in the mortality during the week in question was chiefly among children in the first year of life. The death rate among infants rose from 3.3 to 3.9 per year and mille, this rate being about one-half of that of Munich, Kiel, and Danzig. Acute intestinal diseases again showed a slight increase, causing 42 deaths. On the other hand, acute diseases of the respiratory organs showed a decrease, although they caused 45 deaths. There were further registered 75 deaths from phthisis pulmonalis and 37 from cancer. Scarlet fever caused 3 deaths, as compared with 10 in the foregoing week. Finally, there were 5 deaths from diphtheria, 5 deaths from measles, and 14 persons died by violence.

Plague infection from laboratory work at Berlin.

The 2 cases of plague formed the subject of an animated discussion at yesterday's meeting of the Berlin Medical Society. Professor Dönitz, who, in the absence of Prof. Robert Koch in Africa, is the director of the Berlin Institute for Infectious Diseases, gave an authentic account of all the incidents connected with the death of Dr. Milan Sachs and the sickness of the hospital attendant, Marggraf. During the removal of the sick doctor to the Charlottenburg Hospital and from there to the Charité Hospital several unfortunate incidents occurred by which various persons came into close contact with Doctor Sachs. The danger of a further spread of the plague, thereby created, was counteracted by the energetic precautions taken by the authorities. The hospital attendant, Marggraf, continues to make favorable progress; no plague bacilli were found in the sputum examined yesterday. Special interest was manifested in the remarks of the lecturer regarding cases of laboratory infection. Such infection has taken place not only with plague bacilli, but also with cholera and typhoid bacilli. For example, the son-in-law of Robert Koch, Doctor Pfuhl, was infected with cholera in the Berlin Institute, and Professor Marx was infected in this manner with typhoid. The question is now, Is an infection with plague more to be feared than an infection with cholera or typhoid? Herr Dönitz denied this emphatically; for, although during the last four years a large number of medical men had been occupied in the Berlin Institute with plague experiments, and there had been a large number of visitors to the plague department, no case of infection had hitherto occurred.

"Still, however," said Herr Dönitz, "I will not underestimate the possibility that the plague infection might eventually be followed by a plague epidemic, and it was for this reason that the exceedingly strict precautions were adopted."

Professor Kolle, also of the Institute for Infectious Diseases, specially emphasized the importance of the investigations regarding plague

and the plague experiments, for the prompt discovery of a case of plague, and the application of plague serum. The serum used in Berlin is obtained from Paris and Berne. For the present no plague serum is to be prepared in Berlin.

Professor Benda exhibited microscopic preparations obtained from a plague patient who died in Odessa.

The president of the medical society, Professor Bergmann, also called attention to the unfortunate incidents which occurred during the removal of Dr. Sachs to the hospital.

The further discussion of the subject was postponed until the next meeting of the society.

GUATEMALA.

Report from Livingston, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Peters reports as follows: Week ended June 15, 1903. Present officially estimated population, 3,500; two deaths; prevailing diseases, varicella and malarial affections; general sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good, except for varicella.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Name of vessel.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
June 9	David	21			
9	Breakwater	34	7		13

Steamship *Breakwater* cleared from Puerto Barrios.

HONDURAS.

Reports from Ceiba, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Robertson reports as follows: Week ended June 6, 1903. Present officially estimated population, about 4,000; 1 death. Prevailing diseases, malarial. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Name of vessel.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
May 31	Origen	24	0	0	0
31	Geo. Dumois	19	0	0	0
June 2	Fulton	15	0	0	0
3	Spero	18	0	0	0
6	Lauenburg	36	0	0	0
6	Managua	16	0	0	0

Week ended June 13, 1903. No deaths. Prevailing diseases, malarial. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.